

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

Claims 47-66 were pending in the Application. Claims 47 and 48 were amended. Claims 47-66 are now allowable and pending in the application.

Applicants amended claims 47 and 48, since there is no antecedent basis for "high barb" and "low barb" still appearing in paragraphs (e) and (f), respectively, of both claims in the amendment of May 3, 2004. This action corrects also the status of claim 48 as being amended and not original.

An Annotated Marked-up Drawing and a Replacement Sheet of Figure 12 of the parent Application 10/209,765 (filed 08/01/2002), which demonstrates a long and a short barb with the claimed attributes, are enclosed. An amendment in the Specification was also performed to further clarify the claimed invention. The amendment in the Specification finds support in Figure 12, Figure 1 and in the Specification page 8, lines 13-21, and claims 47-48 of the parent Application 10/209,765, among other places.

DETAILED ACTION

1. The comments of the Examiner are acknowledged.
2. The comment of the Examiner that the Application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters is acknowledged.

Amendment

As explained in the Remarks section, Applicants amended claims 47 and 48, since there is no antecedent basis for "high barb" and "low barb" still appearing in paragraphs (e) and (f) of said claims, respectively, in the amendment of

May 3, 2004. This action corrects also the status of claim 48 as being amended and not original.

Therefore, Applicants respectfully request removal of the objection.

Drawings

The drawings were objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a).

As mentioned in the Remarks Section, Applicants amended Figure 12 to better demonstrate the long and short barbs. An Annotated Marked-up Drawing and a Replacement Sheet of Figure 12 of the parent Application 10/209,765 (filed 08/01/2002), which demonstrates a long and a short barb with the claimed attributes, are enclosed. An amendment in the Specification was also performed to further clarify the claimed invention.

Therefore, Applicants respectfully request removal of the objection.

3. The comments of the Examiner regarding the approval of the drawings filed on May 3, 2004 are acknowledged.
4. The comments of the Examiner are acknowledged.

Allowable Subject Matter

5. The allowability of claims 47-66 is acknowledged.

Reasons for allowance

6. The comments of the Examiner regarding the reasons of the allowance are acknowledged.

Conclusion

7. The comments of the Examiner are acknowledged.

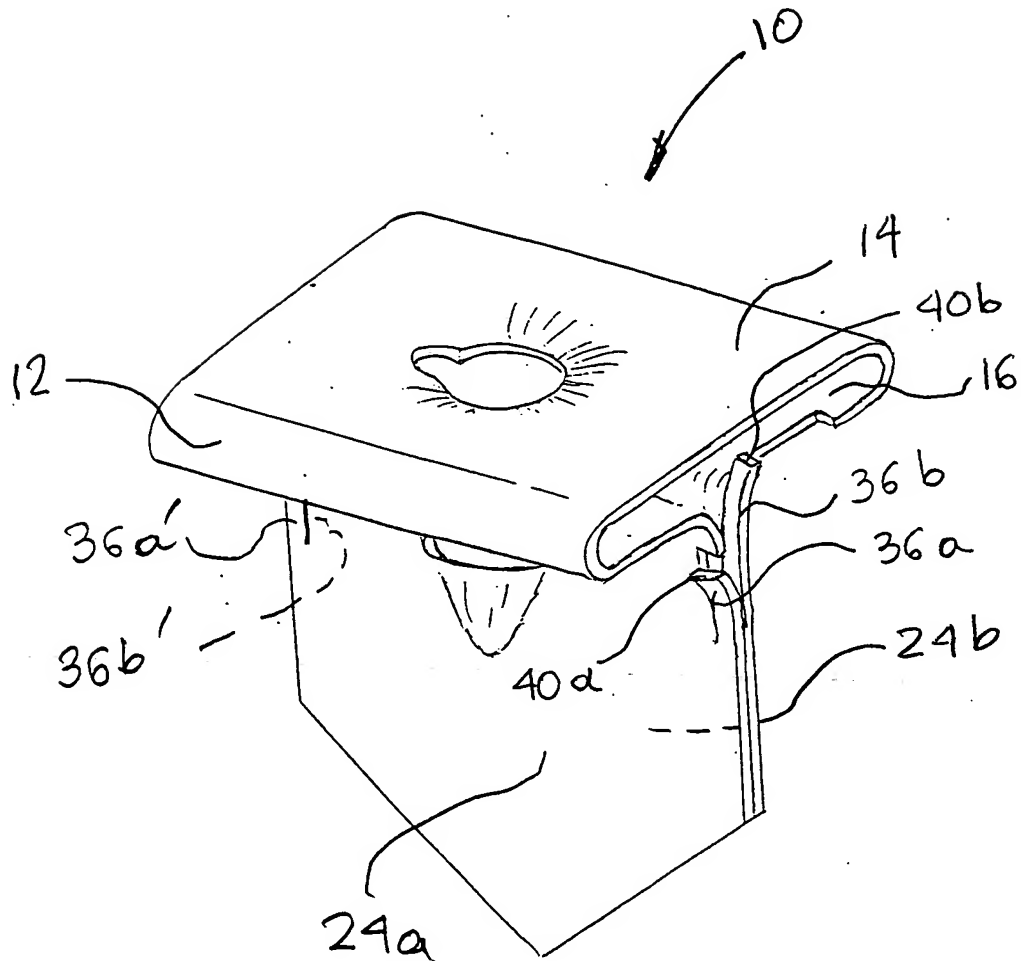


FIG. 12